



PennState
Altoona

TWENTY TWENTY-FOUR

Student Awards

— CEREMONY —

TWENTY TWENTY-FOUR

Student Awards

C E R E M O N Y



PennState

Altoona

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Ron Darbeau, Chancellor

PENN STATE ALTOONA ACADEMIC AWARDS

Fine Arts Award
Zoller Art Award
Kenneth M. Kuhn Memorial Award for Visual Arts
Kenneth M. Kuhn Memorial Award for Music
Liszka Award for Theatre Arts, Dance, or Voice
Liszka Award for English
Student Excellence in Communications
Student Excellence in English
Student Excellence in History
Student Excellence in Multi-Disciplinary Studies
Altoona College Business Student Award (B.S.)
Excellence in Accounting
Electro-Mechanical Engineering Technology
Excellence in Rail Transportation Engineering
Excellence in Information Sciences and Technology
Excellence in Criminal Justice
Excellence in Elementary and Early Childhood Education
Excellence in Human Development and Family Studies
Excellence in Kinesiology
Bachelor's Degree in Nursing
Excellence in Psychology
Outstanding Environmental Studies Student Award
Outstanding Mathematics Student Award

UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

President's Freshman Awards
President Sparks Awards
Evan Pugh Scholar Awards for Seniors

STUDENT LIFE AWARDS

Outstanding Non-Traditional Student Recognition Award
Outstanding Veteran Student Recognition Award
Excellence in Academic Advising Award
Student Organization of the Year Award
Student Organization Advisor of the Year Award
Blue & White Society Award
Penn State Altoona Alumni Society Student Award for Outstanding Service
Club Sports Leadership Award
Butterfield and McHale Business Student Award
Student Activities Leadership Award
Outstanding Achievement in Programming Award
Student Organization President Award
Outstanding International Student Award
Lion's Pride Award
Servant Leader Award
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award
Excellence in Classroom Teaching Award
Lori J. Bechtel-Wherry Living the Values Award
Baccalaureate Degree Award
Eric A. and Josephine S. Walker Award

CLOSING REMARKS

Dr. Ron Darbeau, Chancellor

Academic Awards

FINE ARTS AWARD

This award, sponsored by Ms. Margaret Sheridan, is given to any student who has earned 45 credits or more, who has demonstrated excellence in all course work, with a minimum 3.5 grade-point average in Fine Arts. The recipients are nominated by members of the Art faculty.

Maggie Parks

ZOLLER ART AWARD

This award, sponsored by the late Mrs. Lucille Zoller, is given to a first-year student who has achieved excellence in all course work and demonstrated potential in the art field with a minimum 3.5 grade-point average earned in all art courses. The recipient is nominated and selected by the Art faculty.

Makenzie Kunkle

KENNETH M. KUHN MEMORIAL AWARD FOR VISUAL ARTS

This endowed award, established by Mrs. Shirley Kuhn and friends of Kenneth Kuhn, recognizes a student who is a visual arts major and has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement in Visual Arts at Penn State Altoona.

Tehya Dibert
Cara Groome

KENNETH M. KUHN MEMORIAL AWARD FOR MUSIC

This endowed award, established by Mrs. Shirley Kuhn and friends of Kenneth Kuhn, recognizes more or more students who are enrolled in music classes and have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement at Penn State Altoona.

Emmett Hibbs

LISZKA AWARD FOR THEATRE ARTS, DANCE, OR VOICE

This award, sponsored by Thomas and Marlene Liszka, recognizes students who were enrolled during the preceding spring, summer, or fall semesters in theme arts, dance, or voice (linked to campus theatrical, dance or vocal productions or to related senior projects in Integrative Arts) and were nominated by the faculty member(s) teaching these courses.

Makenzie Arone
Adria Rose Schmidt
Clarissa Styer
Audrey Wawyronic

LISZKA AWARD FOR ENGLISH

This award, sponsored by Thomas and Marlene Liszka, recognizes students who were enrolled during the preceding spring, summer, or fall semesters in English (at the 200-level or above, excluding ENGL 202) and were nominated by the faculty member(s) teaching these courses.

Emera Gregor
Kathryn Maille
Makenna Port
Travis Saylor

STUDENT EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNICATIONS

This award recognizes a student who majors in Communications and has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement at Penn State Altoona.

Nicholas Graziano

STUDENT EXCELLENCE IN ENGLISH

This award recognizes a student who majors in English and has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement at Penn State Altoona.

Kathryn Maille

STUDENT EXCELLENCE IN HISTORY

This award recognizes a student who majors in History and has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement at Penn State Altoona.

Sydney Brown

STUDENT EXCELLENCE IN MULTI-DISCIPLINARY STUDIES

This award recognizes a student who majors in Multi-Disciplinary Studies and has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement at Penn State Altoona.

Elijah King

ALTOONA COLLEGE BUSINESS STUDENT AWARD (B.S.)

This award recognizes a student from the Bachelor of Science Degree in Business at Altoona. Award recipients have demonstrated outstanding qualities of character, scholarship, leadership, and citizenship.

Lainie Heuston

EXCELLENCE IN ACCOUNTING

This award recognizes a student graduating from the Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting at Penn State Altoona who has demonstrated a high-level of academic achievement typically coupled with evidence of traits that are not simply academic. Such traits may be traits of personality or character, such as creativity, leadership, or citizenship. They may be demonstrated through employment, or participation in athletics, the arts, or other collegial or community activities. The accounting faculty selects one award recipient annually.

Maggie Erickson Boyer

ELECTRO-MECHANICAL ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY AWARD

This award recognizes a student who majors in Electro-Mechanical Engineering Technology and has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement at Penn State Altoona.

Nathanial Moore

EXCELLENCE IN RAIL TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING

This award recognizes a student who majors in Rail Transportation Engineering and has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement at Penn State Altoona.

Jason Wiker

EXCELLENCE IN INFORMATION SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

This award recognizes a student who majors in any of the Penn State Altoona IST related majors including Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Security and Risk Analysis. The recipient is chosen based on academic excellence as well as contributions to the program and peers.

Taylor Pelissero

EXCELLENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Excellence in Criminal Justice award recognizes a highly qualified and committed criminal justice student who has achieved not only academic excellence, but has made significant contributions to the college, university and community.

Jazzmine McCauley

EXCELLENCE IN ELEMENTARY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

This award is given to a graduating student who has achieved excellence in Elementary and Early Childhood Education. Recipients are chosen by the Education faculty considering traits such as integrity, perseverance, and ability to meet high standards of excellence.

Emily Perry

EXCELLENCE IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES

This award is given to a graduating student who embodies both academic excellence and taking compassionate perspectives.

Anna Dick

EXCELLENCE IN KINESIOLOGY

This award is given to a graduating student who exemplifies academic excellence in Kinesiology. This student is selected by the Kinesiology faculty considering traits such as commitment to learning, dedicated work ethic, and contributions to the field of Kinesiology within the classroom, across the university and in the community.

Audrianna Barnes

BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN NURSING

This award is given to a graduating student who has earned a high level of academic achievement in nursing, with a minimum 3.5 cumulative grade-point average. The recipient is nominated and selected by the nursing faculty.

Jamie Emerick

EXCELLENCE IN PSYCHOLOGY

This award recognizes a student who majors in Psychology and has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement at Penn State Altoona.

Travis Saylor

OUTSTANDING ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES STUDENT AWARD

This award recognizes a student who majors in Environmental Studies and has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement at Penn State Altoona.

Sara Hyde

OUTSTANDING MATHEMATICS STUDENT AWARD

This award is given to a graduating student in Mathematics who has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement at Penn State Altoona.

Philip Chamberlin

Achievement Awards

PRESIDENT'S FRESHMAN AWARD

This award is presented annually to undergraduate degree candidates and provisional students who have earned a 4.00 (A) cumulative grade-point average based on at least twelve graded Penn State credits completed by the end of the fall semester of the academic year the award is given. Candidates are eligible for this award if they have not exceeded thirty-five total credits earned. (College Board advanced placement credits are not counted in the total credits earned for purposes of this award.)

Miks Alliks
 Calyn Bainey
 Palmer Barbera
 Caitlin Blessel
 Mikel Joshua Boehmer
 Joseph Burian
 Samuel Carmel
 Kristi Chattopadhyay
 Coby Dawson
 Tehya Dibert
 Alessandra Dimtchev
 Hephzibah Dominic
 Lindsay Fetchu
 Landen Fisher
 Emma Fraunderfer
 Injun Go
 Juan Gonzalez Gamallo
 Ved Hitali
 Tristan Holland
 Garrett Hook
 Liam Jackson
 Hyunwoo Jang
 Manas Jayaraman

David Johnston
 Hadee Khan
 Minjoo Kim
 Cooper Kulp
 Olivia Lapiak
 Jared McCulloch
 Arden McKendree
 Jingjing Niu
 Mann Hirenbbhai Patel
 Lily Reid
 Anton Ryvkin
 Emily Shehan
 Kiara Shepler
 Lia Simanski
 Emily Suchta
 Emily Szabo
 Lilah Touboul
 Tri Tran
 Shriya Vadrevu
 Abby Vaux
 Jacob Wolfe
 Kate Yoder
 Qin Zhang

PRESIDENT SPARKS AWARD

This award is presented annually to those undergraduate degree candidates who have earned a 4.00 (A) cumulative grade-point average based on at least thirty-six graded Penn State credits completed by the end of the fall semester of the academic year the award is given. Candidates are eligible for this award if they have not exceeded fifty-nine total credits earned. (College Board advanced placement credits are not counted in the total credits earned for purposes of this award.)

Mansour Al-Mayman
Alawnia Diehl
Madeline Gooch
Tabish Hussain
Abigail Kennedy
Nicholas Lehner
Skylarr Mitchell
Jasmine Santos
Thomas Scanlon
Brody Schnell

EVAN PUGH SCHOLAR AWARD FOR JUNIORS AND SENIORS

The next awards are the Evan Pugh Scholar Awards for Juniors and Seniors. Evan Pugh scholars are those juniors and seniors who are in the upper .5 percent of their respective classes and have completed at least forty-eight graded Penn State credits at the end of the fall semester of the academic year in which the award is given. Credits where Alternative Grades were selected do not count in the graded credits total. Candidates are eligible if they have been full-time Penn State undergraduate students for at least four semesters prior to selection. The juniors this year have cumulative grade-point averages of 3.99 and above. The seniors this year have cumulative grade-point averages of 4.00 and above.

SENIORS:

Riley Dibert
Reid Dutchess
Joseph Levri
Emily Perry
Travis Saylor
Leah Tippet
Lauren Young

STUDENT LIFE

Awards

OUTSTANDING NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENT RECOGNITION AWARD

This award is in recognition of academic commitment and achievement, demonstrated leadership skills, and triumph over personal challenges that this non-traditional student has accomplished toward reaching their academic goals.

Rebecca Reeder

OUTSTANDING VETERAN STUDENT RECOGNITION AWARD

This award, established in fall 2014 by the award selection sub-committee of the Adult Recruitment and Retention Committee recognizes student veterans who are involved in activities both on campus and in the local community who make a difference in the lives of other student veterans of the US Armed Forces while still meeting their own academic responsibilities.

Ketan Arbuckle

EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMIC ADVISING AWARD

This award recognizes any faculty or staff person who exhibits performance above and beyond established expectations for an academic advisor. The recipient is nominated by any Penn State Altoona student and is selected by a vote of the entire Student Senate.

Adam Plucinski

STUDENT ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award recognizes a student organization which has exhibited outstanding campus and community service as well as excellence in programming. The recipient organization may be nominated by any Penn State Altoona student and is selected by a vote of the entire Student Senate.

Campus Activities Board

STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISER OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award recognizes any student organization adviser who exhibits outstanding service to an organization. The recipient is nominated by any member of a Penn State Altoona student organization and is selected by a vote of the entire Student Senate.

Nathan Kruis

BLUE AND WHITE SOCIETY AWARD

Awarded to a student who demonstrates performance going above and beyond in support of their respective student organization for the benefit of Penn State Altoona while maintaining a 3.0 GPA and fulfilling all semester requirements.

Methmi Muthugala

PENN STATE ALTOONA ALUMNI SOCIETY STUDENT AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE

Established by the Penn State Altoona Alumni Society, this award recognizes a student who has significantly contributed to Penn State Altoona by volunteering talent, time, and resources on behalf of the institution.

Chirasvi Gowada

CLUB SPORTS LEADERSHIP AWARD

This award recognizes an individual or student organization that have made a conscious and consistent effort to positively influence fellow students, the campus, and the community by representing Penn State Altoona through their involvement in Club Sports program.

Maxwell Frearson

BUTTERFIELD AND MCHALE BUSINESS STUDENT AWARD

2018 Alumni Bill Butterfield and Logan McHale established this scholarship award in gratitude to Penn State Altoona and to pay that gratitude forward to current students. Junior and senior business students who are also involved in co-curricular activities are eligible to receive this award.

Geoffrey Biddle

Zachary Rudisill

STUDENT ACTIVITIES LEADERSHIP AWARD

These awards recognize first- and second-year students who are actively involved in student organizations, volunteer efforts and/or the community. These individuals have made a conscious and consistent effort to positively influence fellow students, promote involvement to students and have contributed significantly to enhancing student life. Through their leadership, the students have displayed pride in being a part of Penn State Altoona and tried to instill the same pride among fellow students. Recipients may only receive this honor once.

Kadyn Carey

Adam Dotts

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN PROGRAMMING AWARD

This award is presented to a student organization that has sponsored or co-sponsored a successful program which was open to the campus. Events to be considered may include service, educational, diversity and social programs, which enhance the quality of campus life.

Campus Activities Board

STUDENT ORGANIZATION PRESIDENT AWARD

This award is presented to an organization president based on outstanding leadership within the organization, achievements while in office, and serving as a role model and motivating force within the organization.

Olivia Sharrow

OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AWARD

This award recognizes an international student who is actively involved in student organizations, volunteer efforts, and/or the community. Individuals chosen have contributed significantly to enhancing student life.

Parth Raval

LION'S PRIDE AWARD

Presented to members of the campus community who have made ongoing efforts to enhance the student experience. This award not only celebrates the recipients' individual achievements but recognizes their efforts to reinforce the importance of student well-being and engagement.

Arch Ackley
Geoffrey Biddle
Jarrett Gardner

SERVANT LEADER AWARD

This award recognizes an individual who has provided exemplary leadership in the area of volunteerism and philanthropy benefiting the campus, surrounding communities or community agency.

Caroline Baum

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HUMANITARIAN AWARD

This award recognizes a student, student organization, faculty or staff member who has demonstrated through deed and activities, their commitment to perpetuate the goals and ideals communicated by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Makaylah D. Bangura
Jessica Welsh

EXCELLENCE IN CLASSROOM TEACHING AWARD

This award recognizes any faculty or staff person who exhibits innovation and creativity in classroom teaching methods and techniques. The recipient may be nominated by any Penn State Altoona student and is selected by a vote of the entire Student Senate.

Shahub Tossi

LORI J. BECHTEL-WHERRY LIVING THE VALUES AWARD

This award is given to a member of the Penn State Altoona community who has brought the values of Penn State of integrity, respect, responsibility, discovery, excellence, and community to life. This person consistently embodies these ideals even in the face of adversity. The person who receives this award has provided a lasting impact on the Penn State Altoona community which calls others to strive to do better.

Sean Kelly

BACCALAUREATE DEGREE AWARD

This award is given to the baccalaureate degree student with the highest cumulative grade-point average, with the highest number of credit hours.

Leah Tippet

ERIC A. AND JOSEPHINE S. WALKER AWARD

This award recognizes students from throughout the entire University whose outstanding qualities of character, scholarship, leadership and citizenship have been directed into student programs and services. All Penn State Altoona students of sophomore standing and above are eligible. Scholarship is a primary criterion for selection, in tandem with a record of outstanding service to the campus.

Ziwei Lin

This publication is available in alternative media on request.

Penn State is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, and is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, or protected veteran status. UBR AAO 24-173 mbw184